

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE & RECOVERY

- The Leon County Emergency Operations Center was partially activated to coordinate response activities for two emergencies during the last year. The first event was the December 9, 2009 Lake Jackson Tornado, and the second was the community-wide severe weather that occurred on January 21, 2010.
- Provided conference call capabilities and coordination for temporary Cold Weather Shelter operations.
- Participated in the following emergency response exercises: C.H. Corn Hydroelectric Dam annual Emergency Action Plan exercise; Tallahassee Regional Airport annual tabletop exercise; Outbreak Anarchy Business Outreach exercise; City of Tallahassee Tornado Tabletop exercise; Leon County Emergency Operations Center annual full activation exercise; and Leon County Health Department emergency response exercise.
- Conducted 17 emergency preparedness outreach programs for senior citizens, neighborhoods, and other community groups.
- Leon County Emergency Management's director served as President of the 2010 Governor's Hurricane Conference.
- Facilitated three hurricane season response coordination meetings with county, city, state, and non-governmental partner agencies.
- Hosted a special delegation of government officials from Ethiopia and provided information on how emergency management activities are undertaken in Florida.

- Emergency Management's Geographic Information System staff created 604 maps in support of law enforcement and other emergency management partners.
- The Leon County Enhanced 9-1-1 System received 168,238 calls: 98,241 of these calls were from wireless telephones.
- 9-1-1 staff responded to 514 subpoenas and 66 public records requests for audio recordings of 9-1-1 calls.



DID YOU KNOW

Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You may need to survive on your own after an emergency. This means having your own food, water, and other supplies in sufficient quantity to last for at least three days.

To learn more about building a disaster survival kit, please visit: www.haveahurricaneplan.com

The Leon County division of Emergency Management (DEM) is charged with coordinating the activities of more than 50 local response agencies in the event of a disaster, including the Red Cross, EMS, and the Volunteer Center.

Director Richard Smith manages the 9-1-1 System and the County's emergency preparedness, response and recovery operations. He is Past President of the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association, current President of the Governor's Hurricane Conference, Chairman of the Local Emergency Planning Committee for Hazardous Materials, serves on the board of the American Red Cross' Capital Area Chapter and is a member of the State Emergency Response Commission for Hazardous Materials. Smith served in the Army from 1972 to '75, where he was assigned as a Chemical, Biological and Radiological Instructor.

After graduating from FSU, he was a Nuclear Civil Protection Specialist for the state's Bureau of Disaster Preparedness and worked as the South Florida Area Coordinator for Florida's Bureau of Disaster Preparedness. Prior to coming to Leon County, Smith served as Emergency Management Director for Pasco County and was involved in the evacuation for Hurricane Elena, which set a record as the largest evacuation in American history.

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